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TAGS: [PREL](#) [PGOV](#) [UNSC](#) [MO](#) [WI](#) [FR](#)
SUBJECT: FRANCE WITH U.S. ON MINURSO MANDATE RENEWAL

REF: STATE 56431

Classified By: Political Minister Counselor Josiah B. Rosenblatt. Reas
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(C) French MFA welcomed reftel demarche to UNSC capitals aimed at wrapping up negotiations by April 27 on MINURSO mandate renewal for a vote on April 30. MFA IO Action Officer for Western Sahara Nicholas Kassianides emphasized the warm appreciation at the MFA for U.S. leadership in Washington and New York on the issue, underscoring key U.S. interventions during the April 26 meeting of the Friends of Western Sahara. Kassianides shared concerns about the prospect of unhelpful amendments by South Africa and Panama. Overall, he expressed relief that the Friends had reached agreement on a text, admitting some confusion at the unexpected obstacles encountered in obtaining UK buy-in to the draft.

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